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the spring. I remained quite still, and the bird, which came very close to me, finally betrayed the position of its nest by flying towards it. This was situated about fifteen feet from the road; placed as usual on the ground, which was covered with dead leaves. It was embedded in a slight depression, and was partially concealed by a diminutive plant which grew alongside. It was neatly but not elaborately constructed of dry leaves and catkins, and was lined inside with the small, flexible, reddish brown stalks of a small plant, its dimensions being approximately as follows: external width,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches; internal width,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches; external depth,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches; internal depth  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inches. It contained four freshly laid eggs, the appearance of which corresponded to the descriptions of other observers, their color being white, dotted with spots of various shades of light reddish-brown, running together at the larger end, and intermingled with a few spots of lilac. They measured respectively  $.66 \times .54$ ,  $.68 \times .54$ ,  $.67 \times .54$ , and  $.67 \times .54$  inches. As far as I have ascertained, the nest of this species has not before been definitely reported from any point south of the neighbourhood of Washington.—WILLIAM C. RIVES, JR., M. D. *Newport, R. I.*

**Oporonis agilis and Dendroeca palmarum palmarum at Shelburne, near Gorham, New Hampshire.**—On September 14, 1884, while collecting near the 'Dryad Camp' on the side of Mt. Baldcap (altitude approximately 800 feet), I secured a female Connecticut Warbler. When seen it was hopping about in a tangle of hobble bushes and low alders, which covered a small piece of swampy ground in high open woods. No others were seen although I looked carefully for them, and went to the same place several times hoping to find more. This adds the Connecticut Warbler to the birds of New Hampshire.

I shot a typical specimen of the western variety of the Redpoll Warbler (*Dendroeca palmarum palmarum*), on September 16, 1884. It was in a large mixed flock of Warblers, Chickadees, etc., which were feeding in a row of low birches by the roadside. The eastern form (var. *hypochrysea*) was not seen, although I collected steadily until September 24. This is, I believe, the first specimen of *D. palmarum* which has been taken in New Hampshire; the other five New England specimens being all from Massachusetts.—ARTHUR P. CHADBOURNE, *Cambridge, Mass.*

**Swainson's Warbler off Southern Florida.**—One of the most interesting facts brought to light by the Committee on Bird Migration is the discovery of Swainson's Warbler (*Helonæ swainsoni*) off Southern Florida, and the establishment of a fixed point in the line of its autumnal migration. On the night of the 14th of September, 1884, ten of these rare Warblers struck the lighthouse at Sombrero Key, one of the Florida Reefs. On the 15th about the same number struck, and on the 21st several more.

For the possession of this valuable information the Committee is indebted to the kindness of Mr. M. E. Spencer, keeper of the light, who forwarded specimens for identification.—C. HART MERRIAM, *Locust Grove, N. Y.*

**Swainson's Warbler — An Omission.** — In my article on Swainson's Warbler in this number of 'The Auk,' I neglected to refer to an announcement by Dr. G. E. Manigault (Science Record, II, Feb., 1884, p. 34) of the capture of two specimens near Charleston by Mr. Wayne in August, 1883. It is, perhaps, enough to say in this connection that I have been since assured by Mr. Wayne that these birds were erroneously identified, and that they were certainly not Swainson's Warblers.—WILLIAM BREWSTER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

**The Red Crossbill Breeding in Eastern Massachusetts.**—Late in May, 1884, I received information that a flock of *Loxia curvirostra americana* had been seen on the outskirts of the town. Now this was a bird I had been looking for in vain for a number of years, my last record being about ten years ago, and that flock made but a short stay. So on the 31st I visited the locality named, which was 'just the place' for them, being a ledgy tract of pitch-pine, bordering on an alder and maple swamp. I found the flock there, about ten birds, and secured a pair, male and female, in fine adult plumage. On examination I concluded they had not yet bred, and were not likely to for some time. Thinking it probable some would nest there, I made several trips to the grove in June and July, but without result. I requested the man who owned the premises and lived near by, and who was quite interested in my search, to be on the watch for any young birds, and about the middle of July, was gratified with the information that he had twice seen at close quarters a pair of old birds feeding their young; and he has reported their presence quite frequently since, the last time being as lately as November 15.

I regret that I cannot fix the date of hatching (interesting from being so late in the season), and also that I cannot give this at 'first hand'; but my 'assistant observer' is reliable, and has often given me items of ornithological value.—F. C. BROWNE, *Framingham, Mass.*

**The Ipswich Sparrow (*Passerculus princeps*) in Delaware.**—Two specimens obtained Nov. 22, 1884, constitute, I believe, the first record of this species for the State, and the only record south of Seven Mile Beach, N. J. I secured them among the sandhills of Rehoboth Beach, about seven miles south of Cape Henlopen, and might have found others had not my available time been limited to one hour's search.—J. DWIGHT, JR., *New York.*

***Peucaea aestivalis* and its Subspecies *illinoensis*.**—While at Washington last April I happened to mention to Mr. Ridgway that I had taken three specimens of what seemed to be his *Peucaea aestivalis illinoensis* at Charleston, South Carolina, in May, 1883. This led to an examination of Audubon's type of *Fringilla backmani* (preserved in the collection of the National Museum) which very unexpectedly turned out to be also referable to the red inland form instead of, as has been previously assumed, to the dark, black-streaked one of Georgia and Florida. Hence